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# ART IN PHILADELPHIA

One of the most hopeful signs of the general improvement of public taste is to be found in the present attitude of the Philadelphia Board of Public Education. The new West Philadelphia High Schools for Girls and Boys, occupying an entire city block, are surrounded by a beautiful garden and parked sidewalks. Although this garden is barely a year old, the first plants being set out in April, 1913, the results in growth and beauty are remarkable. These show that three very necessary factors are working together—wise planning of the garden as to soils and plants, excellent care and supervision on the part of the caretakers, a policy of assistance on the part of the students.

It is hoped that this experiment, which has so early proved a pronounced success, and is affording constant pleasure to the residents in the vicinity, will encourage the Board of Education to make provision for some garden space around every new building they erect. School grounds can unite the desirable qualities of both parks and playgrounds.

# MURAL DECORATION FOR A PHILADELPHIA HIGH SCHOOL

The Fellowship of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts has manifested its public spirit in a most practical manner. In the autumn of 1913 a competition of designs was held for a series of mural decorations to be placed in the Library of the West Philadelphia High School for Girls. One thousand dollars has been subscribed to begin the work in this particular room.

Pictures are also being placed on the corridor walls, according to a comprehensive plan. The great size of the building, as well as the large wall space, have necessitated a prolonged study of the problem, as great difficulty was experienced in obtaining desired pictures of adequate size. The plans are now perfected, however, and the decorations of the school have an artistic, as well as an educational value.

The community is working with the faculty of the school and members of the

Board of Education with the object of making this building the artistic educational center for this section of the city.

# HENRY REUTERDAHL'S EXHIBITION

In the Detroit Art Museum Henry Reuterdaahl, one of the younger American artists, is showing a collection of his paintings. The same collection was shown in the Cincinnati Art Museum in March and in the Toledo Art Museum in April.

Although Mr. Reuterdaahl is essentially a marine painter—a man of sea-faring race—other subjects are of equal interest to him. Like most modern men his canvases deal with labor, the dockers, the ship-builders, fishermen and the toilers of the glowing blast furnaces. He is principally known, however, through his pictures of the Navy, and he shows in this exhibition several big canvases painted during the fleet's recent cruise in the Mediterranean. Strong clear color, almost brutal in its strength, is the chief characteristic of his work. His pictures are of out-door themes done in the open, and are expressed in a way which is extremely personal. Mr. Reuterdaahl is represented in the National Gallery, and his large painting of "The American Fleet in the Straits of Magellan" hangs in the War College at Newport. In the Architectural League's recent exhibition he was represented by panels painted for the yacht *Vagrant* belonging to Harold S. Vanderbilt, Esq.

# ART IN CHICAGO

With the million dollar Ferguson Fund for sculpture at its disposal, and not less than three important groups of sculptors' studios doing creative work, Chicago may in time become a center of interest in this phase of art on the continent. Lorado Taft, having finished his "Fountain of the Great Lakes," under the patronage of the Ferguson Fund, is now at work on the large models for the "Fountain of Time" for the monumental scheme of "Midway Plaisance" decoration near the University of Chicago. The studios of the Florentine Brotherhood, of which Carlo